Maryland I		l Trust of Historic Pr	operties Form	Survey No. B-48	155
1. Name					
Historic and / common	600 – 606	North Port Street			
2. Location					
street & number	600 - 606 ]	North Port Street			
city, town	Baltimore				
state & zip code	Maryland	21231	county		
3. Classifica	ation	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
district		_ public	X occupied	agriculture	museum
X building(s)		X private	unoccupied	_ commercial	park
structure site		both Public Acquisition	_ work in progress Accessible	educational entertainment	X private residence religious
object		in process	X yes: restricted	government	scientific
		being considered	yes: unrestricted	industrial	transportation
		not applicable	no	military	other:
4. Owner o	f Propert	у			
street & number				teleph	ione
city, town			state & z	ip code	
5. Location	of Legal	Description			
courthouse, registry o	of deeds, etc. Bal	timore City Land Records			liber
street & number		arence Mitchell Courthouse			folio
city, town Baltim	ore		State	Maryland	
6. Represen	itation in	Existing Histo	orical Surveys		
title					
date			federal stat	e county	local
depository for survey	records				
city, town			state & zi	ip code	

## **Taryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**

Survey No. B-4855

7. Description

Condition		Check One	Check One
excellent good _x fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	unaltered X altered	X original sitemoved: date of move:

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of four two-story, two-bay wide Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and wooden scroll-sawn bracketed cornices were built in the late 1880s. None of the houses retains its original brick facade, which would have been painted, with the basements painted white to imitate the marble used in more expensive houses. They have all been covered with formstone.

The houses are two stories in height, 12' wide and occupy lots 70' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses were probably constructed in running bond and were originally painted, but the façade details have been obscured by the formstone covering. Each house has a single hooded chimney located near the rear of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a continuous wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by three long scroll-sawn brackets that connected to a lower molding strip (now gone), and ended with a distinct trefoil pattern. The frieze panel is obscured by the formstone.

The tall, narrow window and door openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, with plain tympanums, and brick sills. None of the original 2/2 sash survive and all windows have 1/1 replacement sash. Each doorway has a single-light transom, but no original doors survive. The houses sit on low basements, lit by a single-light sash. Each house is reached by three brick or concrete steps.

# Maryland Historical Trust aryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-4855

#### 8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify		
prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 X 1800-1899 1900	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	X community planningconservationeconomicseducationengineeringexplorationindustryinvention	landscape architecturelawliteraturemilitarymusicphilosophypolitics/government	religionsciencesculpture X social/ humanitariantheatretransportationother: specify
Specific dates	c. 1888	1	Builder/Architect	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of late Italianate-style houses is significant in that it represents the level of architectural stylishness achieved by many builders of small street houses in the late nineteenth century.

The houses were built according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period 1870 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and northeast of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200 to \$1,500; small street houses for \$700 - \$900. Occasionally, the builder retained ownership of his small street houses to provide income for himself as rental properties. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they could afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

Most of the houses sold to mainly German-American semi-skilled tradesmen and laborers employed in nearby factories, who received mortgages from a variety of local building and loans, many of them sponsored by the German community.

# **Yaryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**

Survey No. B-4855

### 9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

### 10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

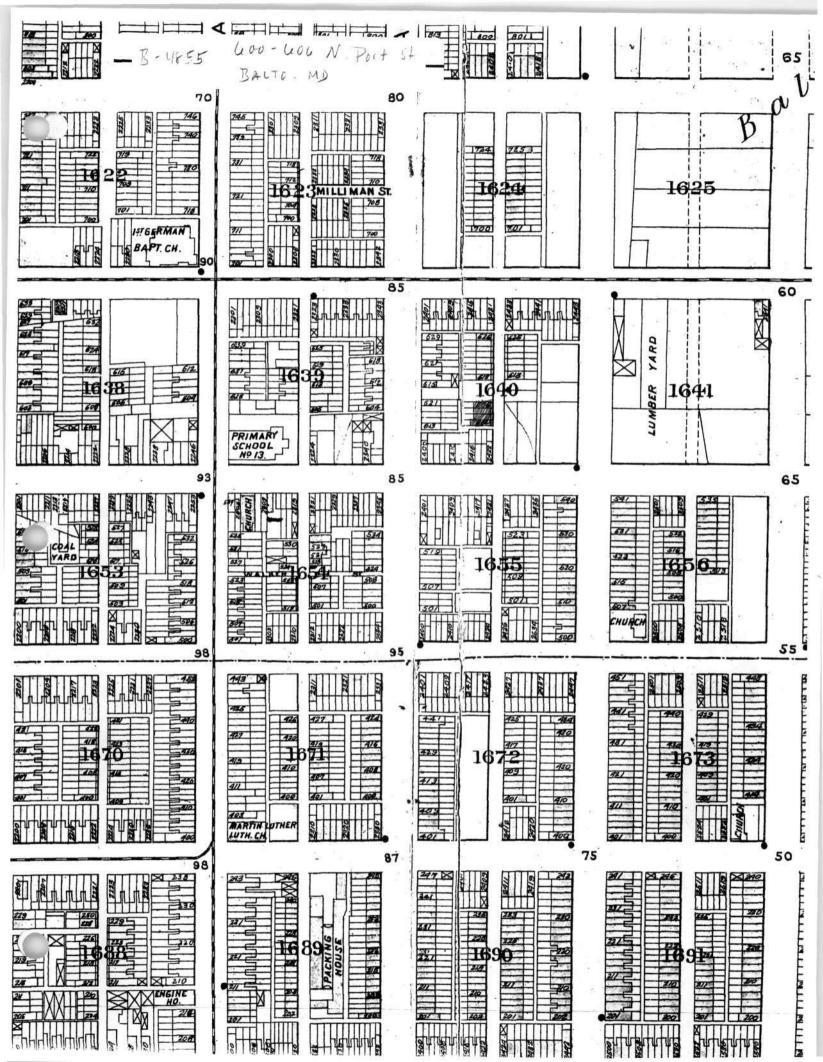
#### 11. Form Prepared by

e / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward	
Organization The Alley House Project	date
street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.	telephone
city, town Baltimore	state & zip code Maryland 21204

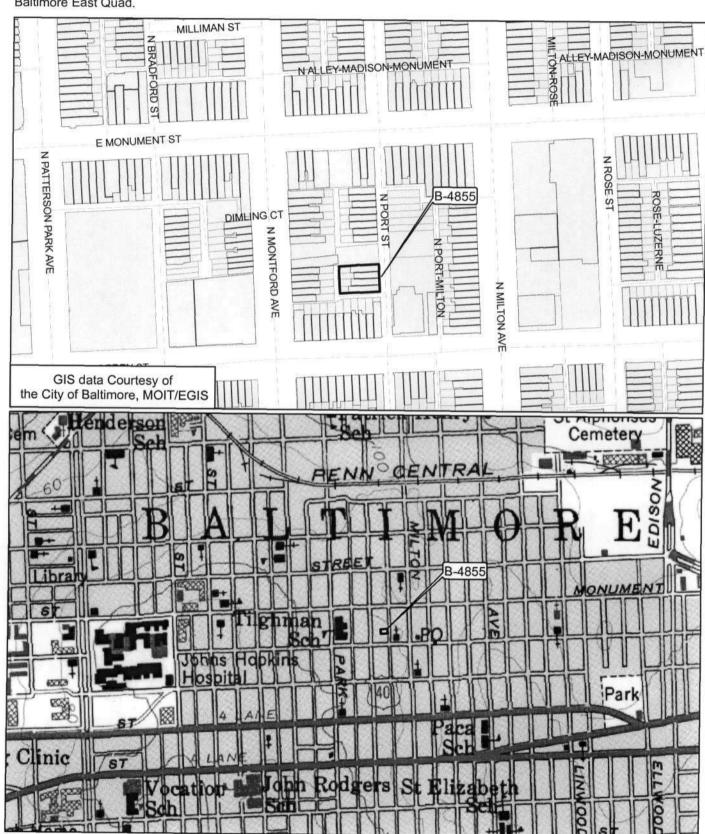
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryl Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property right:

Return to: DHCP/DHCD Maryland Historical Trust 100 Community Place Crownsville MD 21032-2023



B-4855 600-606 N. Port Street Block 1640, Lots 086-089 Baltimore City Baltimore East Quad.





B-4455 600-606 N. Port St. BACTO. MD M. Hayward 6/00 MD SAPO